

## Foreign Agricultural Service *GAIN* Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

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GAIN Report #RP2072

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## **Philippines**

**Grain and Feed** 

**Rice Import Guidelines Update** 

2002

Approved by: **David C. Miller US Embassy**Prepared by:

Perfecto G. Corpuz

## **Report Highlights:**

Although still unofficial, the National Food Authority (NFA) has proposed that Letters of Credit (LCs) be issued to farmers groups-importers on January 2-15, 2003 with the balance of the volume to be imported opened to other importers on January 16-31, 2003. Each importer will be limited to only 10,000 MT of rice in NFA's proposal. The GOP will allow the private sector to import around 800 TMT of milled rice in 2003.

Prior to his resignation, then Administrator Abad (refer to RP2071) had announced that for CY2003, the National Food Authority (NFA) would allow the private sector to import around 800 TMT of milled rice. Specific import guidelines, however, have yet to be issued, but are expected to be in place by the end of the year. The NFA had proposed that farmer groups be given the privilege to open Letters of Credit (LCs) at the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) ahead of local traders. In its proposal, LCs will be issued to farmer groups-importers on January 2-15, 2003 while the balance of the volume to be imported opened to other importers on January 16-31, 2003. Each importer will be limited to only 10,000 MT of rice in NFA's proposal.